

Message Text

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47

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 IO-11 SSO-00 INRE-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-05 SAM-01

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FM AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6791

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY CAPETOWN

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L STOCKHOLM 0809

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SW, AO, CU

SUBJECT: SWEDEN MOVES TOWARDS RECOGNITION OF MPLA

REF: STOCKHOLM 0644

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1. THE GOVERNMENT OF SWEDEN IS MOVING TOWARDS RECOGNITION

OF THE MPLA AS THE GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA. JAN ELIASSON, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE MFA DIRECTOR GENERAL, CONFIRMED TO POLCOUNS FEB. 17 THAT SWEDISH PRESS REPORTS REPORTING SUCH A MOVE WERE ESSENTIALLY CORRECT. THE COUNTRY'S HIGHEST BODY ON NATIONAL SECURITY MATTERS, THE FOREIGN POLICY COUNCIL, WILL BE CONVENED IN A SPECIAL SESSION TOMORROW (FEB. 18) TO CONSIDER A GOVERNMENT PROPOSAL FOR RECOGNITION OF THE MPLA, NOW THAT AS SWEDES SEE IT, THAT ORGANIZATION APPEARS TO BE IN EFFECTIVE CONTROL OF MOST THE WHOLE OF ANGOLA. ALTHOUGH NOTING THAT MEMBERS OF THE NON-SOCIALIST OPPOSITION PARTIES, COOL TO MPLA RECOGNITION, ARE ALSO MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL, ELIASSON THOUGHT IT LIKELY THAT GOVERNMENT RECOGNITION PROPOSALS WOULD BE APPROVED. (THIS VIEW WAS ALSO ECHOED BY AFRICAN DESK OFFICER, BO HEINEBACK, IN TALK WITH US TODAY)

2. WHEN POLCOUNS COMMENTED THAT GOS SEEMED TO BE EXHIBITING UNSEEMLY HASTE IN ITS MOVE TO RECOGNIZE MPLA, ELIASSON REPLIED THAT GOS HAS "NO URGENT DESIRE TO BE FIRST" IN RECOGNIZING MPLA, AND ANTICIPATES THAT FRANCE WILL BE THE FIRST WESTERN STATE TO RECOGNIZE. IN REPLY TO COMMENT THAT GOS WOULD, IN EFFECT, BE RECOGNIZING MILITARY VICTORY OF SOVIET-BACKED CUBAN FORCES RATHER THAN THAT OF MPLA, ELIASSON SAID THAT GOS WOULD ACCOMPANY ITS RECOGNITION ANNOUNCEMENT WITH (A) CALL FOR CESSATION OF ALL FOREIGN INTERVENTION IN ANGOLA AND (B) APPEAL TO MPLA TO FORM GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY.

3. COMMENT: OUR BEST EFFORTS NOTWITHSTANDING, IT APPEARS GOS WILL SHORTLY RECOGNIZE MPLA, POSSIBLY TOMORROW FOLLOWING MEETING OF FOREIGN POLICY COUNCIL. WE BELIEVE WE HAVE SAID EVERYTHING THAT COULD BE SAID TO DISSUADE GOS FROM THIS LAMENTABLE STEP.
STRAUSZ-HUPE

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